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Agenda item 92

EXTERNAL DEBT CRISIS AND DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Irene FREUDENSCHUSS-REICHL (Austria)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 24 September 1993, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its forty-eighth session the item entitled "External debt crisis and development" and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 10th, 11th, 18th and 48th meetings, on 14, 15, 26 October, and 13 December. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/48/SR.10, 11, 18 and 48). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 3rd to 8th meetings, on 8 and 11 to 13 October (see A/C.2/48/SR.3-8).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the international debt strategy as of mid-1993 (A/48/345);

(b) Letter dated 28 May 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the press communiqué issued by the Standing Ministerial Committee for Economic Cooperation of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries at its meeting held at Bali, Indonesia, from 10 to 13 May 1993 (A/48/182);

(c) Letter dated 4 August 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the final document of the third Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government (A/48/291-S/26242).

4. At the 10th meeting, on 14 October 1993, the Director for Macroeconomic and Social Policy Analysis of the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis made an introductory statement (see A/C.2/48/SR.10).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.2/48/L.5 AND REV.1

5. At the 18th meeting, on 26 October, the representative of Colombia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are also members of the Group of 77, and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Enhanced international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problems of all developing countries" (A/C.2/48/L.5) and orally revised the text as follows:

(a) A new paragraph 9 was added to read as follows:

"Stresses that concerted action to alleviate the debt burden of developing countries by developed countries is critical to growth in the developing world, which, in turn, is essential for the growth of the world economy;"

and the subsequent paragraphs were renumbered accordingly.

(b) In operative paragraph 14, after the words "developing countries" the words ", taking into account the situation of middle-income countries and in particular that of low-income countries" were inserted.

6. The draft resolution, as orally revised, read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming its resolutions 41/202 of 8 December 1986, 42/198 of 11 December 1987, 43/198 of 20 December 1988, 44/205 of 22 December 1989, S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, 45/199 of 21 December 1990, 45/214 of 21 December 1991, 46/151 of 18 December 1991, and 47/198 of 22 December 1992,

"Noting the limited progress achieved so far in solving the debt problem and stressing that further concrete measures are essential to solve the external debt problem of a large number of developing countries,

"Noting also with concern the continuing debt and debt-service problems of indebted developing countries (least developed, low-income, lower middle-income and middle-income) which adversely affect their development efforts and economic growth, and reiterating the need to address and solve those problems through effective debt-relief measures,

bearing in mind, in this context, the special and critical situation of the indebted developing countries of Africa,

"Stressing the importance of alleviating the onerous debt and debt-service burdens connected with all types of debt, commercial and public, multilateral and bilateral, of all developing countries,

"Stressing the necessity of a supportive international economic environment - in particular stable exchange rates, low international interest rates, an open international trading system and the amelioration of the terms of trade of developing countries - and noting the inadequacy of resources for the implementation of international consensus agreements on development,

"Expressing its concern that, in many developing countries, the burden of debt and debt service constitute one of the major obstacles to the revitalization of growth and development, despite the often strenuous economic reforms of those countries,

"Noting that those developing countries which have continued, at great cost, to meet their international debt and debt-service obligations in a timely fashion have done so despite severe external and domestic financial constraints,

"1. Takes note of the Secretary-General's report concerning the external debt crisis and development; 1/

"2. Expresses its concern that only a few countries have been able to conclude agreements on commercial bank debt-service reduction and calls for the conclusion of similar agreements with all interested developing countries;

"3. Also stresses the need for the implementation of additional debt-relief measures, including further reduction and cancellation of debt and debt service related to official debt, and for more urgent actions with regard to, inter alia, the remaining commercial debt owed by the developing countries;

"4. Also calls upon the international community, in particular the developed creditor countries, to write-off the official bilateral debt owed by the least developed countries;

"5. Calls for the rapid and effective implementation of the measures taken to address the debt problem of certain middle-income African countries and invites all creditors to take appropriate measures for all middle-income debtor developing countries, taking into account the special and critical situation of those in Africa;

1/ A/48/345.

"6. Calls on the donor countries and multilateral financial institutions to consider taking innovative measures for substantial relief of the debt of low-income countries;

"7. Stresses the need for the broadest and most expeditious implementation of the recent initiatives and the need to continue to build upon them, and calls on the developed countries to adopt and implement the Trinidad and Tobago terms;

"8. Recognizes the urgent need to continue to provide a social safety net to vulnerable groups most adversely affected by the implementation of economic reform programmes in the debtor countries, in particular low-income groups, in order to ensure social and political stability;

"9. Stresses that concerted action to alleviate the debt burden of developing countries by developed countries is critical to growth in the developing world, which, in turn, is essential for the growth of the world economy;

"10. Also recognizes the need of debtor developing countries for a supportive international economic environment as regards, inter alia, terms of trade, commodity prices, improved market access and trade practices, and stresses the urgent need for a balanced and successful outcome of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, which would result in the liberalization and expansion of world trade to the benefit of all countries, in particular the developing countries;

"11. Stresses the need, in addition to debt relief measures that include debt and debt-service reduction, for new financial flows to debtor developing countries, and urges the creditor countries and the multilateral financial institutions to continue to extend concessional financial assistance, as appropriate, in order to support the implementation by the developing countries of their economic reforms, stabilization and structural adjustment programmes, so as to enable them to extricate themselves from the debt overhang and to assist them in achieving economic growth and development;

"12. Urges the international community to consider wider application of innovative measures, such as debt-for-equity swaps, debt-for-nature swaps and debt-for-development swaps, without prejudice to more durable solutions such as debt cancellation;

"13. Calls upon private creditors and commercial banks to renew and expand initiatives and efforts to tackle the commercial debt problems of the least developed countries, and of low- and middle-income developing countries;

"14. Invites the multilateral financial institutions to consider rescheduling and reducing the arrears owed by the least developed countries, and low- and middle-income countries, taking into account the special and critical situation of those in Africa, and decides that a study should be undertaken to examine how the multilateral financial institutions

can best extend debt relief measures of the debt owed to them by developing countries;

"15. Urges the international community to devise an innovative strategy to deal with the debt problems of developing countries, taking into account the situation of middle-income countries and in particular that of low-income countries that have carried out economic reforms, met their obligations and continued to service their debt at great social cost;

"16. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution."

7. At its 48th meeting, on 13 December 1993, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.5 (A/C.2/48/L.5/Rev.1).

8. The representative of Cameroon made oral revisions to the text as follows:

(a) In the title and in the second line of the sixth preambular paragraph, the word "all" before the word "developing" was deleted;

(b) In the third line of the second preambular paragraph, the word "problem" was replaced with the word "problems";

(c) In the third line of operative paragraph 5, the word "take" was replaced with the words "consider taking", and the word "all" before the word "middle-income" was deleted;

(d) At the end of operative paragraph 13, the words "reduction and/or" were inserted after the word "debt".

9. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted revised draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.5/Rev.1, as orally revised, by a recorded vote of 152 to 1 (see para. 11). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi,

Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States of America.

10. After the draft resolution was adopted, a statement was made by the representative of Colombia on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are also members of the Group of 77 (see A/C.2/48/SR.48).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

11. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Enhanced international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problems of developing countries

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 41/202 of 8 December 1986, 42/198 of 11 December 1987, 43/198 of 20 December 1988, 44/205 of 22 December 1989, S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, 45/199 of 21 December 1990, 45/214 of 21 December 1991, 46/148 and 46/151 of 18 December 1991, and 47/198 of 22 December 1992,

Noting that, owing to uneven developments in the context of the evolving international debt strategy, further progress and further concrete measures are essential towards the solution of the external debt problems of a large number of developing countries,

Welcoming the fact that some developing countries have made substantial progress towards resolving their debt difficulties,

Noting with concern the continuing debt and debt-service problems of indebted developing countries, which adversely affect their development efforts and economic growth, and reiterating the need to address and solve those problems through effective debt-relief measures, bearing in mind, in this context, the special and critical situation of the most indebted developing countries of Africa,

Noting that a number of countries with economies in transition are experiencing debt-servicing difficulties, while recognizing that the Paris Club has adopted a flexible and innovative approach to deal with these problems, and calling upon private creditors to adopt similar measures,

Stressing the importance of alleviating the onerous debt and debt-service burdens connected with all types of debt of developing countries, taking into account the urgent need for an equitable and durable approach,

Emphasizing the importance for debtor developing countries of continuing to pursue and intensify their efforts in their economic reform, stabilization and structural adjustment programmes, in order to raise savings and investment, reduce inflation and improve economic efficiency, taking into account their individual characteristics and the vulnerability of the poorer strata of their populations,

Stressing the necessity of a supportive international economic environment as regards, inter alia, terms of trade, commodity prices, improved market access, trade practices, exchange rates and international interest rates, and noting the continued need for resources for the implementation of international consensus agreements for the promotion of sustainable development,

Expressing its concern that, in many developing countries, the burden of debt and debt service constitute one of the major obstacles to the revitalization of growth and development, despite the often strenuous economic reforms of those countries,

Noting that those developing countries which have continued, at great cost, to meet their international debt and debt-service obligations in a timely fashion have done so despite severe external and domestic financial constraints,

1. Takes note of the Secretary-General's report concerning the external debt crisis and development; 2/

2. Notes the fact that some debtor developing countries with commercial external debt have been able to conclude agreements on commercial bank debt-service reduction, and calls for the conclusion of similar agreements with other interested developing countries;

3. Calls upon the international community to explore ways to implement additional measures, including further cancellation or reduction of debt and debt service related to official debt, and to take more urgent actions with regard to, inter alia, the remaining commercial debt owed by the developing countries;

4. Welcomes the write-off by certain donors of a significant part of the bilateral official debt of the least developed countries, and urges those countries which have not done so to cancel or provide equivalent relief for the official development assistance debt of the least developed countries;

2/ A/48/345.

5. Calls for the rapid and effective implementation of the measures ta to address the debt problem of certain middle-income African countries and invites all creditors to consider taking appropriate measures for middle-inco debtor developing countries, taking into account the special and critical situation of those in Africa;

6. Also calls upon the donor countries and multilateral financial institutions, within their prerogatives, to consider appropriate new measures for substantial relief of the debt of low-income countries;

7. Stresses the need for the broadest and most expeditious implementat of the recent initiatives and the need to continue to build upon them, and ca upon the developed countries to adopt and implement further debt-alleviating terms, including consideration of the Trinidad and Tobago terms, as appropria

8. Recognizes the urgent need to continue to provide a social safety n to vulnerable groups most adversely affected by the implementation of economi reform programmes in the debtor countries, in particular low-income groups, i order to ensure social and political stability;

9. Emphasizes the importance for developing countries to continue thei efforts to promote a favourable environment for attracting foreign investment thereby promoting growth and sustainable development;

10. Stresses that concerted action by the international community, in particular by developed countries, to alleviate the debt burden of developing countries is vital to growth in the developing countries, which, in turn, wou promote the growth of the world economy;

11. Recognizes the need of debtor developing countries for a supportive international economic environment as regards, inter alia, terms of trade, commodity prices, improved market access and trade practices, and stresses th urgent need for a balanced and successful outcome of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, which would result in the liberalization and expansion of world trade to the benefit of all countries, in particular the developing countries;

12. Stresses the need, in addition to debt-relief measures that include debt and debt-service reduction, for new financial flows to debtor developing countries, and urges the creditor countries and the multilateral financial institutions to continue to extend concessional financial assistance, as appropriate, in order to support the implementation by the developing countri of their economic reforms, stabilization and structural adjustment programmes so as to enable them to extricate themselves from the debt overhang and to assist them in achieving economic growth and development;

13. Urges the international community to consider wider application of innovative measures, such as debt-for-equity, debt-for-nature and debt-for-development swaps, without prejudice to more durable solutions such debt reduction and/or cancellation;

14. Calls upon private creditors and, in particular, commercial banks to renew and expand initiatives and efforts to tackle the commercial debt problems of the least developed countries and of low- and middle-income developing countries;

15. Urges the multilateral financial institutions to continue to provide support for debt and debt-service reduction packages with the necessary flexibility under their established guidelines, and also urges that earnest attention be given to continuing to work towards a growth-oriented solution to the problems of developing countries that are having serious debt-servicing difficulties, including those countries whose debt is mainly to official creditors or to multilateral financial institutions;

16. Urges creditor countries, private banks and, within their prerogative, multilateral financial institutions to consider the extension of appropriate new financial support to developing countries, in particular the low-income countries with substantial debt burdens that continue, at great cost, to service the debt and meet their international obligations;

17. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Irene FREUDENSCHUSS-REICHL (Austria)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 24 September 1993, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in its agenda the item entitled "International cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries" and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 41st, 45th and 48th meetings, on 26 November and 6 and 13 December 1993. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/48/SR.41, 45 and 48). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 3rd to 8th meetings, on 8 and 11 to 13 October (see A/C.2/48/SR.3-8).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries (A/48/545);

(b) Letter dated 28 May 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the press communiqué issued by the Standing Ministerial Committee for Economic Cooperation of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries at its meeting held at Bali, Indonesia, from 10 to 13 May 1993 (A/48/182);

(c) Letter dated 16 July 1993 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the text of the Final Statement of the eleventh

session of the InterAction Council, held at Shanghai, China, from 13 to 16 May 1993 (A/48/272-26108);

(d) Letter dated 4 August 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the final document of the third Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government, held at Salvador, Brazil, on 15 and 16 July 1993 (A/48/291-S/26242);

(e) Letter dated 6 October 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the Declaration of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 adopted at the seventeenth annual meeting held in New York on 5 October 1993 (A/48/485);

(f) Letter dated 28 October 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the text of the communiqué adopted at the meeting of the Heads of Government of the countries of the Commonwealth, held at Limassol, Cyprus, from 21 to 25 October 1993 (A/48/564).

4. At the 41st meeting, on 26 November, an introductory statement was made by the Under-Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development (see A/C.2/48/SR.41).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/48/L.60 and L.86

5. At the 45th meeting, on 6 December, the representative of Colombia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International Year for the Eradication of Poverty" (A/C.2/48/L.60), which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 47/196 of 22 December 1992 entitled 'Observance of an international day for the eradication of poverty',

"Reaffirming its resolutions 43/195 of 20 December 1988, 44/212 of 22 December 1989, 45/213 of 21 December 1990, 46/141 of 17 December 1991 and 47/197 of 22 December 1992 related to international cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries,

"Noting that the eradication of poverty in all countries, in particular the developing countries, has become one of the priority development objectives for the 1990s and considering that the promotion of the eradication of poverty requires public awareness,

"Recognizing that poverty is a complex and multidimensional problem with origins in both the national and international domains and that its eradication constitutes an important factor to ensure sustainable development,

"Noting that the efforts made at the national and international levels need to be enhanced to ensure the eradication of poverty,

"Welcoming success noted in organizing and observing the international day for the eradication of poverty,

"Taking into account its decision 35/424 of 5 December 1980 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 concerning guidelines for international years and anniversaries,

"Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General, 1/

"Stressing the positive impact that a favourable international economic environment, in particular in the area of trade, has in combating poverty in developing countries,

"Stressing further the importance of international cooperation in combating poverty, inter alia, through exchange among Governments of successful experiences in the field,

"1. Proclaims 1996 International Year for the Eradication of Poverty;

"2. Decides that the major activities for the observance of the Year should be undertaken at the local, national, subregional, regional and international levels and that assistance should be provided by the United Nations system with a view to creating among States, policy makers and international public opinion a greater awareness that the eradication of poverty is fundamental to reinforcing peace and achieving sustainable development;

"3. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with States, concerned specialized agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to prepare a draft programme concerning the preparations for and observance of the Year, containing the objectives, principles and main recommendations for the Year, and to submit a progress report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session;

"4. Also requests the Secretary-General to take specific measures to increase the dissemination of information and to give widespread publicity to the activities of the United Nations system, including those described in chapter 3 of Agenda 21 2/ related to the eradication of poverty;

1/ A/48/545.

2/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), resolution 1, annex II.

"5. Invites all States, organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations concerned and interested national organizations, including non-governmental organizations, to exert every possible effort in the preparations for and observance of the Year and to cooperate with the Secretary-General in achieving the objectives of the Year;

"6. Designates the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development as the secretariat and the Economic and Social Council as the coordinating body for the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty;

"7. Recommends that the secretariat and the coordinating body work in close collaboration with all relevant organizations inside and outside the United Nations system in the preparations for and observance of the Year;

"8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session a sub-item on the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty under the agenda item entitled 'International cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries'."

6. At the 48th meeting, on 13 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Leandro Arellano Resendiz (Mexico), introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/48/L.86), submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.60.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.86 without a vote (see para. 13, draft resolution I).

8. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.86, draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.60 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/48/L.61 and L.89

9. At the 45th meeting, on 6 December, the representative of Colombia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries" (A/C.2/48/L.61), which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming its resolutions 43/195 of 20 December 1988, 44/212 of 22 December 1989, 45/213 of 21 December 1990, 46/141 of 17 December 1991 and 47/197 of 22 December 1992 related to international cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries,

"Reaffirming also its resolutions S-18/3 of 1 May 1990 and 45/199 of 21 December 1990 as well as all declarations, commitments, plans and programmes of action containing provisions related to the eradication of poverty in the framework of activities of the United Nations system,

"Reaffirming further the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, 3/ in particular principle 5, Agenda 21, 4/ in particular chapter 3 entitled 'Combating poverty', the Non-legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of All Types of Forests, 5/ in particular principle 7 (a), and all other decisions and recommendations adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development relating to the eradication of poverty,

"Noting that the eradication of poverty in developing countries has become one of the priority development objectives for the 1990s,

"Recognizing that poverty is a complex and multidimensional problem with origins in both the national and international domains and that its eradication constitutes an important factor in ensuring sustainable development,

"Considering that the efforts made at the national and international levels need to be enhanced to ensure the eradication of poverty,

"Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries, 6/

"1. Stresses that the eradication of poverty requires a two-pronged approach: employment creation and increase of household income on the one hand, and provision of basic human services, strengthening of food security and execution of national capacity-building programmes on the other;

"2. Reaffirms that a supportive international economic environment that takes into account resource flows and structural adjustment programmes, in which social and environmental dimensions are integrated, is vital to the success of efforts of developing countries to deal with the eradication of poverty;

"3. Invites developing countries to undertake national strategies and programmes for the eradication of poverty that involve more active participation of the targeted communities as well as the most vulnerable groups in initiating, implementing, following up and evaluating specific projects;

3/ Ibid, annex I.

4/ Ibid., annex II.

5/ Ibid., annex III.

6/ A/48/545.

"4. Reiterates its request to the international community to adopt specific and effective measures designed to increase financial flows to developing countries, and urges the developed countries and countries in a position to do so to augment their aid programmes and to make their best efforts to increase their level of official development assistance in order to reach the accepted United Nations target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance;

"5. Invites the international community and the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to continue to support development programmes in developing countries, including the implementation of decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development related to the eradication of poverty, particularly chapter 3 of Agenda 21 2/ entitled 'Combating poverty';

"6. Requests the Secretary-General to urge the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in the framework of the help they give to developing countries, to strengthen their institutional capacities for implementing their poverty eradication programmes and to adopt an integrated approach, with attention to social services, income generation and the increased participation of local communities;

"7. Invites preparatory bodies and all relevant forthcoming major meetings and conferences of the United Nations system, particularly the International Conference on Population and Development, the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women and the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), to take specific measures and decisions to meet the challenge of the eradication of poverty by the early part of the twenty-first century;

"8. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session an updated report focusing, inter alia, on the development of appropriate inputs to country programmes by relevant agencies and organizations of the United Nations system, based on information exchange and analysis of the operations of actual programmes and the identification of constraints and weaknesses of operational capacities due to lack of resources, as well as focusing on elements for the elaboration of multisectoral strategies;

"9. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session the item entitled 'International cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries'."

10. At the 48th meeting, on 13 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Leandro Arellano Resendiz (Mexico), introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/48/L.89), submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.61.

11. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.89 without a vote (see para. 13, draft resolution II).

12. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/48/89, draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.61 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

13. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

International Year for the Eradication of Poverty

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/196 of 22 December 1992 entitled "Observance of an international day for the eradication of poverty",

Reaffirming its resolutions 43/195 of 20 December 1988, 44/212 of 22 December 1989, 45/213 of 21 December 1990, 46/141 of 17 December 1991 and 47/197 of 22 December 1992 related to international cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries,

Recognizing that poverty is a complex and multidimensional problem with origins in both the national and international domains, and that its eradication in all countries, in particular in developing countries, has become one of the priority development objectives for the 1990s in order to promote sustainable development,

Noting that the efforts made at the national and international levels need to be enhanced to ensure the eradication of poverty, in particular in the least developed countries in sub-Saharan Africa, and other countries having concentrations of poverty,

Welcoming the success noted in organizing and observing the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty,

Taking into account its decision 35/424 of 5 December 1980 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 concerning guidelines for international years and anniversaries,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General, 7/

Stressing the positive impact that a favourable international economic environment, in particular in the area of trade, has in combating poverty in all countries, in particular in developing countries,

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7/ A/48/545.

Stressing also the importance of international cooperation in combating poverty, inter alia, through exchange among Governments of successful experiences in the field,

1. Proclaims 1996 International Year for the Eradication of Poverty;

2. Decides that the major activities for the observance of the Year should be undertaken at the local, national and international levels and that assistance should be provided by the United Nations system with a view to creating among States, policy makers and international public opinion a greater awareness that the eradication of poverty is fundamental to reinforcing peace and achieving sustainable development;

3. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with States, concerned specialized agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to prepare a draft programme concerning the preparations for and observance of the Year, containing the objectives, principles and main recommendations for the Year, and to submit a progress report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session;

4. Also requests the Secretary-General to give widespread publicity to the activities of the United Nations system, including those described in chapter 3 of Agenda 21 8/ related to the eradication of poverty;

5. Invites all States, organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations concerned and interested national organizations, including non-governmental organizations, to exert every possible effort in the preparations for and observance of the Year and to cooperate with the Secretary-General in achieving the objectives of the Year;

6. Designates the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development as the preparatory body and the Economic and Social Council as the coordinating body for the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty;

7. Recommends that the preparatory body and the coordinating body work in close collaboration with all relevant organizations inside and outside the United Nations system in the preparations for and observance of the Year;

8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session a sub-item on the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty under the item entitled "International cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries".

8/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), resolution 1, annex II.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

International cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 43/195 of 20 December 1988, 44/212 of 22 December 1989, 45/213 of 21 December 1990, 46/141 of 17 December 1991 and 47/197 of 22 December 1992 related to international cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries,

Reaffirming also its resolutions S-18/3 of 1 May 1990 and 45/199 of 21 December 1990, as well as all the declarations, commitments, plans and programmes of action containing provisions related to the eradication of poverty in the framework of activities of the United Nations system,

Reaffirming further the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, 9/ in particular principle 5, Agenda 21, 10/ in particular chapter 3 entitled "Combating poverty", the Non-legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of All Types of Forests, 11/ in particular Principle 7 (a), and all other decisions and recommendations adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development relating to the eradication of poverty,

Noting that the eradication of poverty in particular in developing countries, is one of the priority development objectives for the 1990s,

Recognizing that poverty is a complex and multidimensional problem with origins in both the national and international domains and that its eradication constitutes an important factor in ensuring sustainable development,

Recognizing the central role that women play in the eradication of poverty and the necessity to address the needs of women in poverty eradication programmes,

Considering that the efforts made at the national and international levels need to be enhanced to ensure the eradication of poverty, in particular in the least developed countries in sub-Saharan Africa and other countries having concentrations of poverty,

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9/ Ibid., annex I.

10/ Ibid, annex II.

11/ Ibid., annex III.

Reaffirming the need for the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to coordinate better and harmonize their activities in the field of the eradication of poverty, bearing in mind the relevant paragraphs of General Assembly resolution 47/199 of 22 December 1992, in particular the paragraph dealing with mechanisms and instruments of coordination at the field level,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries, 12/

1. Stresses the importance of domestic policies, including effective budgetary policies, to mobilize and allocate domestic resources for the eradication of poverty through, inter alia, the creation of employment and income-generating programmes, the implementation of food security, health, education, housing and population programmes and the strengthening of national capacity-building execution programmes;

2. Reaffirms that a supportive international economic environment that takes into account resource flows and structural adjustment programmes, in which social and environmental dimensions are integrated, is vital to the success of efforts of developing countries, in particular, to deal with the eradication of poverty;

3. Invites all countries to undertake national strategies and programmes that are, inter alia, gender sensitive, taking into account cultural, religious and social particularities, for the eradication of poverty that involve more active participation of the targeted communities as well as the most vulnerable groups in initiating, implementing, following up and evaluating specific projects;

4. Reiterates its request to the international community to adopt specific and effective measures designed to increase financial flows to developing countries, and urges the developed countries, which have reaffirmed their commitment to reach the accepted United Nations target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance, to the extent that they have not yet achieved that target, to agree to augment their aid programmes in order to reach that target as soon as possible, some developed countries having agreed to reach the target by the year 2000; other developed countries, in line with their support for reform efforts in developing countries, agree to make their best efforts to increase their level of official development assistance;

5. Invites the international community and the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to continue to support development programmes in developing countries, including the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development related to the eradication of poverty, particularly chapter 3 of Agenda 21 2/ entitled "Combating poverty";

12/ A/48/545.

6. Requests the Secretary-General to urge the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in the framework of the help they give to developing countries, to strengthen their institutional capacities for implementing their poverty eradication programmes and to adopt a coordinated and integrated approach that includes, inter alia, the role and needs of women, with attention to social services, income generation and the increased participation of local communities;

7. Invites preparatory bodies and all relevant forthcoming major meetings and conferences of the United Nations system, particularly the International Conference on Population and Development, the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women and the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), to take specific measures and decisions to meet by the early part of the twenty-first century the challenge of the eradication of poverty;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session an updated report focusing, inter alia, on the development of appropriate inputs to country programmes by relevant agencies and organizations of the United Nations system, based on information exchange and analysis of the operations of actual programmes and the identification of constraints and weaknesses of operational and coordinating capacities owing to a lack of resources, as well as focusing on elements for the elaboration of multisectoral strategies;

9. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session the item entitled "International cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries".

UNITED NATIONS **A**

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17 December 1993

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Forty-eighth session
Agenda item 94

OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Irene FREUDENSCHUSS-REICHL (Austria)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 24 September 1993, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its forty-eighth session the item entitled:

"Operational activities for development:

"(a) United Nations Development Programme;

"(b) United Nations Capital Development Fund;

"(c) United Nations technical cooperation activities;

"(d) United Nations Volunteers programme;"

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 27th to 29th and 46th to 48th meetings, on 10 and 11 November and 9, 10 and 13 December 1993. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/48/SR.27-29 and 46-48). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 3rd to 8th meetings, on 8 and 11 to 13 October (see A/C.2/48/SR.3-8).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 45/217 on the World Summit for Children (A/48/321);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General on the advancement of women (A/48/279);

(c) Letter dated 28 May 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the press communiqué issued by the Standing Ministerial Committee for Economic Cooperation of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries at its meeting held at Bali, Indonesia, from 10 to 13 May 1993 (A/48/182);

(d) Letter dated 4 August 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the final document of the third Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government (A/48/291-S/26242);

(e) Letter dated 9 August 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Final Document of the meeting of the Standing Ministerial Committee for Economic Cooperation of the Non-Aligned Movement, held in Bali from 10 to 13 May 1993 (A/48/338);

(f) Letter dated 30 August 1993 from the Permanent Representative of the Marshall Islands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the communiqué of the Twenty-Fourth South Pacific Forum (A/48/359);

(g) Note verbale dated 27 September 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Bulgaria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/48/445-S/26501);

(h) Letter dated 6 October 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the communiqué of the Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries to the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly (A/48/484-S/26552);

(i) Letter dated 6 October 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Declaration of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 adopted at their seventeenth annual meeting (A/48/485);

(j) Letter dated 8 November 1993 from the Permanent Representative of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the conclusions, decisions and declarations adopted by the Latin American Council of the Latin American Economic System at its nineteenth ordinary ministerial meeting (A/48/597);

(k) Letter dated 15 October 1993 from the Acting Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the declaration of the Ministerial Meeting of the Least Developed Countries, held in New York on 30 September 1993 (A/C.2/48/4).

Item 94 (a) - United Nations Development Programme

Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme on its organizational meeting for 1993, its special session and its fortieth session (E/1993/35); 1/

Item 94 (b) - United Nations Capital Development Fund

Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme on its organizational meeting for 1993, its special session and its fortieth session (E/1993/35); 1/

Item 94 (c) - United Nations technical cooperation activities

Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme on its organizational meeting for 1993, its special session and its fortieth session (E/1993/35); 1/

Item 94 (d) - United Nations Volunteers programme

Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme on its organizational meeting for 1993, its special session and its fortieth session (E/1993/35). 1/

4. At the 27th meeting, on 10 November, introductory statements were made by the Under-Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development, the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund and the Director of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (see A/C.2/48/SR.27).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft decision A/C.2/48/L.59

5. At its 47th meeting, on 10 December, the Committee had before it a draft decision entitled "Implementation of General Assembly resolution 45/217 on the World Summit for Children" (A/C.2/48/L.59), submitted by the Chairman.

6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft decision A/C.2/48/L.59 without a vote (see para. 10, draft decision I).

7. After the adoption of the draft decision, the representative of Belgium made a statement on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union (see A/C.2/48/SR.47).

1/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1993, Supplement No. 15 (E/1993/35).

B. Draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.70

8. At the 46th meeting, on 9 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Ryszard Rysinski (Poland), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Operational activities for development: field offices of the United Nations development system" (A/C.2/48/L.70). For action on the draft resolution, see the report of the Second Committee on agenda item 154, "United Nations interim offices" (A/48/733, paras. 5-9).

C. Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme

9. At its 48th meeting, on 13 December, upon the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme on its organizational meeting for 1993, its special session and its fortieth session 1/ (see para. 10, draft decision II).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

10. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decisions:

DRAFT DECISION I

Implementation of General Assembly resolution 45/217 on the World Summit for Children

The General Assembly, recalling its resolution 45/217 of 21 December 1990 on the World Summit for Children and taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the resolution, 2/ requests the Secretary-General to submit an update of that report to it at its forty-ninth session for consideration.

2/ A/48/321.

DRAFT DECISION II

Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme

The General Assembly decides to take note of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme on its organizational meeting for 1993, its special session and its fortieth session. 3/

3/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1993, Supplement No. 15 (E/1993/35).

UNITED
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INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMITMENTS AND POLICIES AGREED UPON IN THE DECLARATION ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION, IN PARTICULAR THE REVITALIZATION OF THE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR THE FOURTH UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT DECADE

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Irene FREUDENSCHUSS-REICHL (Austria)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 24 September 1993, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its forty-eighth session the item entitled:

"International cooperation for economic growth and development:

"(a) Implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries;

"(b) Implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade"

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 21st, 22nd, 26th and 45th meetings, on 2, 3 and 9 November and 6 December 1993. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records

(A/C.2/48/SR.21, 22, 26 and 45). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 3rd to 8th meetings, on 8 and 11 to 13 October (see A/C.2/48/SR.3-8).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Second Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Letter dated 25 February 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Equatorial Guinea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/48/94);

(b) Letter dated 28 May 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the press communiqué issued by the Standing Ministerial Committee for Economic Cooperation of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries at its meeting held at Bali, Indonesia, from 10 to 13 May 1993 (A/48/182);

(c) Letter dated 16 July 1993 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the Final Statement of the eleventh session of the InterAction Council (A/48/272-S/26108);

(d) Letter dated 4 August 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the final document of the third Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government (A/48/291);

(e) Letter dated 9 August 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the Final Document of the Standing Ministerial Committee for Economic Cooperation of the Non-Aligned Movement, held at Bali from 10 to 13 May 1993 (A/48/338);

(f) Letter dated 11 August 1993 from the Permanent Representative of the Bahamas to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the communiqué of the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community (A/48/309);

(g) Letter dated 24 August 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the final document of the Japan Economic Summit, held in Tokyo from 7 to 9 July 1993 (A/48/353);

(h) Letter dated 30 August 1993 from the Permanent Representative of the Marshall Islands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the communiqué of the Twenty-Fourth South Pacific Forum, held at Nauru on 10 and 11 August 1993 (A/48/359);

(i) Letter dated 9 September 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Grenada to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the communiqué issued by the nineteenth meeting of the Standing Committee of the Ministers responsible for Foreign Affairs of the Caribbean Community (A/48/401);

(j) Note verbale dated 27 September 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Bulgaria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/48/445);

(k) Letter dated 6 October 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the communiqué of the Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries to the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly (A/48/484);

(l) Letter dated 6 October 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the declaration of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 adopted at the seventeenth annual meeting (A/48/485);

(m) Letter dated 8 November 1993 from the Permanent Representative of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the conclusions, decisions and declarations adopted by the Latin American Council of the Latin American Economic System at its nineteenth ordinary ministerial meeting (A/48/597);

(n) Letter dated 15 October 1993 from the Acting Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the declaration of the Ministerial Meeting of the Least Developed Countries, held in New York on 30 September 1993 (A/C.2/48/4);

(a) Implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on regional economic integration among developing countries (A/48/505);

(b) Letter dated 28 October 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the communiqué adopted at the Meeting of the Heads of Government of the Countries of the Commonwealth, held at Limassol, Cyprus, from 21 to 25 October 1993 (A/48/564).

4. At the 21st meeting, on 2 November, the Director of the Regional Commissions New York Office made an introductory statement (see A/C.2/48/SR.21).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.2/48/L.10

5. At the 26th meeting, on 9 November, the representative of Colombia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are also members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries and implementation of the International

Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade" (A/C.2/48/L.10).

6. At the 45th meeting, on 6 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Ryszard Rysinski (Poland), informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on the draft resolution and orally revised it as follows:

(a) In operative paragraph 2, the words "critical need for the full implementation of" were replaced by the words "need for the full and timely implementation of";

(b) In operative paragraph 5, the words "constraints towards the implementation of the commitments and measures" were replaced by the words "difficulties in implementing the commitments and measures by Member States".

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.10, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 8).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

8. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, contained in the annex to its resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, and the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 45/199 of 21 December 1990, which provide the overall framework for economic growth and development,

Recalling its resolutions 46/144 of 17 December 1991 and 47/152 of 18 December 1992 on the implementation of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation and the International Development Strategy,

1. Takes note of the report submitted by the Secretary-General on the Declaration on International Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries; 1/

2. Stresses the need for the full and timely implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration and in the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade;

3. Encourages Member States that have not yet submitted their reports on the implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration and in the International Development Strategy to do so;

4. Decides, in order to monitor the progress made in the implementation of the Declaration and the International Development Strategy and to facilitate the deliberation of the report of the Secretary-General on the subject, as requested in its resolution 47/152, to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session the item entitled "International cooperation for economic growth and development: (a) Implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries; (b) Implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade";

5. Requests the Secretary-General to include in his analytical and comprehensive report on the implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration and in the International Development Strategy difficulties in implementing the commitments and measures by Member States that have to be taken for the expeditious and full implementation of the agreements contained therein.

1/ A/48/505.

UNITED
NATIONS

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SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 96

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Irene FREUDENSCHUSS-REICHL (Austria)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 24 September 1993, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its forty-eighth session the item entitled "International Conference on Population and Development" and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 23rd to 26th and 45th meetings, on 4, 5 and 9 November and 6 December 1993. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/48/SR.23-26 and 45). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 3rd to 8th meetings, on 8 and 11 to 13 October (see A/C.2/48/SR.3-8).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for the Conference (A/48/430 and Add.1);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General on the report of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Population and Development on its second session (A/48/492);

(c) Letter dated 28 May 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the press communiqué issued by the Standing Ministerial Committee for Economic

Cooperation of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries at its meeting held in Bali, Indonesia, from 10 to 13 May 1993 (A/48/182);

(d) Letter dated 9 August 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Final Document of the meeting of the Standing Ministerial Committee for Economic Cooperation of the Non-Aligned Movement, held in Bali from 10 to 13 May 1993 (A/48/338);

(e) Letter dated 6 October 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Declaration of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 adopted at the seventeenth annual meeting (A/48/485);

(f) Note verbale dated 11 October 1993 from the Permanent Representative of the Marshall Islands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Port Vila Declaration on Population and Sustainable Development, agreed upon at Port Vila on 10 September 1993 (A/C.2/48/3);

(g) Letter dated 15 October 1993 from the Acting Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the declaration of the Ministerial Meeting of the Least Developed Countries, held in New York on 30 September 1993 (A/C.2/48/4);

(h) Letter dated 3 November 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Tunis Plan of Action on Population and Development in the Arab Maghreb, adopted by the Maghreb Conference on Population and Development, held at Tunis from 7 to 10 July 1993 (A/C.2/48/7).

4. At the 23rd meeting, on 4 November, an introductory statement was made by the Secretary-General of the International Conference on Population and Development (see A/C.2/48/SR.23).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.11 and Rev.1

5. At the 26th meeting, on 9 November, the representative of Colombia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International Conference on Population and Development" (A/C.2/48/L.11), which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 47/176 of 22 December 1992 on the International Conference on Population and Development, to be held in Cairo from 5 to 13 September 1994,

"Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolutions 1989/91 of 26 July 1989, 1991/93 of 26 July 1991, 1992/37 of 30 July 1992 and 1993/4 of 12 February 1993,

"Recognizing the importance of population issues in the context of sustained economic growth and sustainable development and the need to treat population issues in their proper developmental perspective,

"Noting the report of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Population and Development on its second session, 1/

"Emphasizing the importance of a thorough preparatory process for the subsequent success of the Conference,

"1. Takes note with appreciation of the progress report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for the Conference 2/ and the accompanying annotated outline of the draft final document of the Conference; 3/

"2. Endorses fully Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/76 of 30 July 1993 on the preparations for the International Conference on Population and Development;

"3. Decides that the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Population and Development shall become a subsidiary body of the General Assembly;

"4. Expresses its appreciation to Member States and organizations for the extrabudgetary contributions made so far to the three trust funds that have been established to support preparatory activities, including national activities, as well as to support the participation in the Conference and its preparatory process of developing countries, particularly the least developed among them, and calls upon all States and organizations in a position to do so to support those trust funds further;

"5. Requests the Secretary-General of the Conference, in preparing the draft final document of the Conference, to be guided by the views expressed by delegations and groups of delegations on the annotated outline, including those expressed at the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly;

"6. Also requests the Secretary-General of the Conference, in recognition of the importance to the preparations for the Conference of the regional and subregional population conferences, to submit to the

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1/ E/1993/69.

2/ A/48/430.

3/ A/48/430/Add.1.

Preparatory Committee at its third session a report synthesizing the results of those conferences;

"7. Further requests the Secretary-General of the Conference to convene, within existing conference-servicing provisions, informal consultations at United Nations Headquarters in the period prior to the third session of the Preparatory Committee, in preparation for negotiations on the draft final document of the Conference;

"8. Emphasizes the particular importance of immediate action in widely publicizing the objectives of the Conference and the issues to be discussed at it;

"9. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in close consultation with the Secretary-General of the Conference, to ensure implementation of the present resolution;

"10. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session an item entitled 'Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development'."

6. At the 45th meeting, on 6 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Leandro Arellano Resendiz (Mexico), informed the Committee of the results of informal consultations held on the draft resolution, and drew the Committee's attention to a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/48/L.11/Rev.1) submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.11 as well as Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, the Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted revised draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.11/Rev.1 without a vote (see para. 10).

8. After the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of Egypt (see A/C.2/48/SR.45).

B. Report of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Population and Development

9. At its 45th meeting, on 6 December, upon the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the note by the Secretary-General on the report of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Population and Development at its second session (A/48/492) (see para. 11).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

10. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

International Conference on Population and Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/176 of 22 December 1992 on the International Conference on Population and Development, to be held in Cairo from 5 to 13 September 1994,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolutions 1989/91 of 26 July 1989, 1991/93 of 26 July 1991, 1992/37 of 30 July 1992 and 1993/4 of 12 February 1993,

Recognizing the importance of population issues in the context of sustained economic growth and sustainable development and the need to treat population issues in their proper developmental perspective,

Noting the report of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Population and Development on its second session, 4/

Emphasizing the importance of a thorough intergovernmental preparatory process for the subsequent success of the Conference,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the progress report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for the International Conference on Population and Development 5/ and the accompanying annotated outline of the draft final document of the Conference; 6/

2. Endorses fully Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/76 of 30 July 1993 on the preparations for the International Conference on Population and Development;

3. Decides that the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Population and Development shall become a subsidiary body of the General Assembly, without prejudice to current arrangements for participation in the Conference and its preparatory process;

4. Expresses its appreciation to States and organizations for the extrabudgetary contributions made so far to the three trust funds that have been established to support preparatory activities, including national activities, as well as to support the participation in the Conference and its preparatory process of developing countries, particularly the least developed among them, and calls upon all States and organizations in a position to do so to support those trust funds further;

4/ E/1993/69.

5/ A/48/430.

6/ A/48/430/Add.1.

5. Requests the Secretary-General of the Conference, in preparing the draft final document of the Conference, to be guided by the views expressed by delegations and groups of delegations on the annotated outline, including those expressed at the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly;

6. Also requests the Secretary-General of the Conference, in recognition of the importance to the preparations for the Conference of the regional and subregional population conferences, to submit to the Preparatory Committee at its third session a report synthesizing the results of those conferences;

7. Further requests the Secretary-General of the Conference to convene, within existing resources, informal consultations at United Nations Headquarters in the period prior to the third session of the Preparatory Committee, to exchange views in preparation for negotiations on the draft final document of the Conference;

8. Reaffirms the importance of the participation in and contribution to the preparatory process and the Conference itself of non-governmental organizations in accordance with the relevant provisions of Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/4;

9. Emphasizes the particular importance of immediate action in widely publicizing the objectives of the Conference and the issues to be discussed at it;

10. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in close consultation with the Secretary-General of the Conference, to ensure implementation of the present resolution;

11. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session an item entitled "Report of the International Conference on Population and Development".

* * *

11. The Second Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Report of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Population and Development

The General Assembly decides to take note of the note by the Secretary-General on the report of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Population and Development at its second session. 7/

7/ A/48/492.

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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE FINANCING OF DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Irene FREUDENSCHUSS-REICHL (Austria)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 24 September 1993, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in its agenda the item entitled "International conference on the financing of development" and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 8th, 9th, 15th and 46th meetings, on 13 and 20 October and 9 December 1993. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/48/SR.8, 9, 15 and 46). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 3rd to 8th meetings, on 8 and 11 to 13 October (see A/C.2/48/SR.3-8).

3. For the consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on sources of financing for development (A/48/367);

(b) Letter dated 28 May 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the press communiqué issued by the Standing Ministerial Committee for Economic Cooperation of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries at its meeting held at Bali, Indonesia, from 10 to 13 May 1993 (A/48/182);

(c) Letter dated 6 October 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the communiqué of the Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of

Delegation of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries to the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly (A/48/484-S/26552);

(d) Letter dated 6 October 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the declaration of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77, adopted at their seventeenth annual meeting (A/48/485);

(e) Letter dated 8 November 1993 from the Permanent Representative of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the conclusions, decisions and declarations adopted by the Latin American Council of the Latin American Economic System at its nineteenth ordinary ministerial meeting (A/48/597).

4. At the 8th meeting, on 13 October, the Director of the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis made an introductory statement (see A/C.2/48/SR.8).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.2/48/L.4

5. At the 15th meeting, on 20 October, the representative of Colombia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, China and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International conference on the financing of development" (A/C.2/48/L.4).

6. At the 46th meeting, on 9 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Ryszard Rysinski (Poland), informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on the draft resolution and orally revised operative paragraph 2 by replacing the words "the potential sources of financing for development, particularly following the developments of the negotiations of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, exploring the possible reorientation towards development financing of funds currently spent as production subsidies, and on the international financial system for development," with the words "all potential sources of financing for development, including sources of new and additional financing for development,".

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.4, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 9).

8. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of the United States of America made a statement (see A/C.2/48/SR.46).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

9. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

International conference on the financing of development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance and continued validity of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, contained in the annex to its resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, the International Development Strategy for the Fourth Development Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 45/199 of 21 December 1990, the Cartagena Commitment, 1/ the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, contained in the annex to its resolution 46/151 of 18 December 1991, the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, 2/ and the various consensus agreements and conventions, especially Agenda 21, adopted during the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, 3/

Recalling its resolution 46/205 of 20 December 1991 on convening an international conference on the financing of development, and its decision 47/436 of 18 December 1992,

Noting with interest the analysis on the current international financial situation outlined in the report of the Secretary-General, 4/ and the link between peace, security and growth and development, 5/

Recalling its resolution 47/181 of 22 December 1992 on an agenda for development,

1. Decides to continue to explore the issue of the financing of development and its potential funding sources in close consultation and cooperation with the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session a report on the situation of all potential sources of financing for development, including sources of new and additional financing for

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1/ "A New Partnership for Development: The Cartagena Commitment", adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its eighth session, held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 8 to 25 February 1992 (TD/364), part one, sect. A.

2/ See Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

3/ See Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: Resolutions adopted by the Conference.

4/ A/48/367.

5/ See A/46/594 and E/1992/82/Add.1.

development, in order to consider the issue of convening an international conference on the financing of development;

3. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of the fiftieth session of the General Assembly, under the item "International cooperation for economic growth and development", the issue of the financing of development.

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INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR NATURAL DISASTER REDUCTION

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Irene FREUDENSCHUSS-REICHL (Austria)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 24 September 1993, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in its agenda the item entitled "International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction" and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 33rd to 35th, 38th and 47th meetings, on 16 to 18 and 23 November and 10 December. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/48/SR.33-35, 38 and 47). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 3rd to 8th meetings, on 8 and 11 to 13 October (see A/C.2/48/SR.3-8).

3. For the consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary General on the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (A/48/219-E/1993/97 and Add.1);

(b) Letter dated 21 October 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the final document of the meeting on locust control held at Algiers held on 27 September 1993 (A/48/552);

(c) Letter dated 15 October 1993 from the Acting Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the declaration of the Ministerial Meeting of the Least Developed Countries, held in New York on 30 September 1993 (A/C.2/48/4);

(d) Letter dated 4 November 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the report of the ad hoc Sahel/Naghreb meeting on the locust situation, held at Tunis on 1 and 2 September 1993 (A/C.2/48/6);

(e) Letter dated 12 November 1993 from the Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the concluding statements of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR) Chiba International Conference, held in Japan from 27 to 30 November 1992, and of the IDNDR Aichi/Nagoya International Conference, held in Japan from 1 to 4 November 1993 (A/C.2/48/9).

4. At the 33rd meeting, on 16 November, the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs made an introductory statement (see A/C.2/48/SR.33).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.2/48/L.24

5. At the 38th meeting, on 23 November, the representative of Colombia introduced a draft resolution entitled "International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction" (A/C.2/48/L.24), on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, Canada, China, Colombia, Japan and the United States of America, subsequently joined by Belgium (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) Finland, Israel, Kazakhstan, Norway, Poland, the Russian Federation and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

6. At the same meeting, the representative of Japan made a statement (see A/C.2/48/SR.38).

7. At the 47th meeting, on 10 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Ryszard Rysinski (Poland), informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on the draft resolution and orally revised it as follows:

(a) At the end of the fifth preambular paragraph, the words "and to capacity-building for disaster preparedness and mitigation at the national level" were added;

(b) In the ninth preambular paragraph, the word "inseparable" was replaced with the word "close", and the word "understood" was replaced with the word "recognized";

(c) In operative paragraph 5, the words "to continue" were inserted before the words "to bring closer together", and the words "preparedness and" were inserted before the word "mitigation";

(d) In operative paragraph 8, the words "February 1994" were replaced with the words "March 1994".

8. The Committee had before it a statement on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.24, submitted by the

Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (A/C.2/48/L.62).

9. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.24, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 10).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

10. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction

The General Assembly,

Expressing its support to all countries that have suffered a large loss of human life, as well as heavy physical and economic damage, as a result of natural disasters,

Recalling its resolutions 44/236 of 22 December 1989, in which it proclaimed the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, and 46/182 of 19 December 1991, in which it called for substantive improvements in international humanitarian emergency assistance and which led to the establishment of the Department of Humanitarian Affairs,

Recalling also its resolution 46/149 of 18 December 1991, in which it endorsed the convening in 1994 of a world conference of representatives of national committees for the Decade,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council decision 1993/328 of 30 July 1993 on the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction,

Recognizing the important contribution the Decade can make to the improvement of emergency management in general and to capacity-building for disaster preparedness and mitigation at the national level,

Emphasizing the important role of professional and other non-governmental organizations, particularly scientific and technological societies, humanitarian groups and investment institutions, in the implementation of programmes and activities of the Decade,

Having considered the 12-point Plan of Action for the Conference adopted by the Special High-Level Council on the Decade at its second session, 1/

Having also considered the recommendations made by the Secretary-General with the purpose of providing guidance for the continuing implementation of the Decade and the effective preparation and convening of the Conference,

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1/ A/48/219-E/1993/97, annex.

Recognizing the close interrelationship between disaster prevention and sustainable development, which was already recognized at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and taken account of in Agenda 21, 2/

Convinced that each country bears the primary responsibility for protecting its people, infrastructure and other national assets from the impact of natural disasters,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the Decade, which contains, inter alia, the second annual report of the Scientific and Technical Committee on the Decade, 3/

1. Commends those countries exposed to disasters which have already taken initiatives to reduce their vulnerability, encourages them to continue with the implementation of natural disaster mitigation policies during the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction in the context of their socio-economic process, taking into account the targets for progress in disaster reduction defined by the Scientific and Technical Committee, and also encourages them to pursue the possibilities of regional cooperation within the framework of the Decade;

2. Encourages the members of the Special High-Level Council on the Decade, on the basis of the advice they have provided to the Secretary-General, to embark actively, individually and as a group, to increase public awareness of the potential for disaster reduction and raise support for the activities of the Decade from Governments, international financing institutions and other funding organizations, and the business community;

3. Commends the Scientific and Technical Committee on the Decade for the work accomplished in 1992, and endorses its proposals for the preparations for the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction;

4. Calls upon Member States and all other participants in the Decade to participate actively in the financial and technical support of Decade activities, including those of the secretariat of the Decade;

5. Calls upon the Department of Humanitarian Affairs, of which the secretariat of the Decade has become an integral part, to continue to bring closer together the operational and promotional efforts in disaster preparedness and mitigation, thus paving the way for the successful attainment of the goals and objectives of the Decade;

2/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference, resolution I, annex II.

3/ A/48/219-E/1993/97 and Add.1.

6. Decides to convene the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction in 1994 with the following objectives:

(a) To review the accomplishments of the Decade at national, regional and international levels;

(b) To chart a programme of action for the future;

(c) To exchange information on the implementation of Decade programmes and policies;

(d) To increase awareness of the importance of disaster reduction policies;

7. Accepts with deep appreciation the generous offer of the Government of Japan to host the Conference, and decides that the Conference will be held at Yokohama, Japan, from 23 to 27 May 1994;

8. Decides to establish a Preparatory Committee, which will meet at Geneva no later than March 1994 for five days to review organizational and substantive preparations for the Conference, to approve the programme of work of the Conference and to propose rules of procedure for adoption by the Conference, on the basis of recommendations submitted by the secretariat of the Decade, after consultation with the host country;

9. Requests the secretariat of the Decade to serve as the secretariat of the Conference and to coordinate preparatory activities in close cooperation with the host Government and the Preparatory Committee for the Conference, with the full support of relevant departments and offices of the United Nations Secretariat;

10. Recognizes the importance of broad and multidisciplinary participation in the Conference and, to this end, requests the Secretary-General to invite to the Conference all States, national committees for the Decade and organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, as well as concerned intergovernmental organizations and scientific associations, relevant non-governmental organizations and the private sector;

11. Calls upon all Governments to take an active part in the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction and its preparatory process, in particular by:

(a) Undertaking systematic assessments of national and local hazards and risks, with the assistance of the intersectoral national committees for the Decade;

(b) Organizing multidisciplinary national and regional conferences and technical meetings, so as to ensure that the entire potential of each country, both at the national level and within the context of regional cooperation, including its scientific and technical capability, is fully utilized in disaster reduction;

(c) Preparing comprehensive reports on progress achieved and plans for further action to be presented at the Conference;

12. Calls upon all United Nations bodies and specialized agencies to participate actively in the Conference, as well as its preparatory process, and commends those organizations which, in line with the open and participatory nature of the Decade, have assumed responsibility for the organization of technical committees at the Conference;

13. Decides that the preparatory process and the Conference itself should be funded through existing budgetary resources, without negatively affecting programmed activities, and through voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction;

14. Requests the Secretary-General to appeal to all Member States to contribute generously to the Trust Fund for the financing of the additional activities required in preparing for and holding the Conference;

15. Expresses its deep appreciation to those countries which have provided generous support for the activities of the Decade by making voluntary contributions to its Trust Fund, making available scientific and technical knowledge, developing and implementing innovative disaster reduction projects and hosting activities or meetings of importance to the Decade;

16. Also expresses its deep appreciation to those national committees and focal points for the Decade which have actively participated in the process of attaining the goals and objectives of the Decade;

17. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session a report on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, including the findings of the mid-term review of the implementation of the International Framework of Action for the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, to be carried out by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1994.

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IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Irene FREUDENSCHUSS-REICHL (Austria)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 24 September 1993, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its forty-eighth session the item entitled:

> "Implementation of decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development:
>
> "(a) Elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa;
>
> "(b) Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;
>
> "(c) Sustainable use and conservation of the marine living resources of the high seas: United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks"

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 36th to 43rd, 46th and 47th meetings, on 19, 23, 24, 26 and 29 November and 3, 9 and 10 December 1993. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/48/SR.36-43, 46 and 47). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 3rd to 8th meetings, on 8 and 11 to 13 October (see A/C.2/48/SR.3-8).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 47/199 on the institutional arrangements to follow up the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (A/48/442);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General on the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change (A/48/563);

(c) Letter dated 28 May 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the press communiqué issued by the Standing Ministerial Committee for Economic Cooperation of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries at its meeting held in Bali, Indonesia, from 10 to 13 May 1993 (A/48/182);

(d) Letter dated 4 August 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the final document of the third Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government (A/48/291-S/26242);

(e) Letter dated 27 July 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Joint Communiqué of the Twenty-sixth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (A/48/294-S/26247);

(f) Letter dated 11 August 1993 from the Permanent Representative of the Bahamas to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the communiqué of the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community (A/48/309);

(g) Letter dated 9 August 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Final Document of the Meeting of the Standing Ministerial Committee for Economic Cooperation of the Non-Aligned Movement, held in Bali, Indonesia, from 10 to 13 May 1993 (A/48/338);

(h) Letter dated 12 July 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting documents adopted by the twenty-first Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (A/48/396-S/26440);

(i) Letter dated 9 September 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Grenada to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the communiqué issued by the nineteenth meeting of the Standing Committee of the Ministers responsible for Foreign Affairs of the Caribbean Community (A/48/401);

(j) Letter dated 22 September 1993 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Joint Declaration of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States and

of Azerbaijan, Georgia and the Republic of Moldova on Questions of Environmental Protection (A/48/427);

(k) Letter dated 6 October 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Declaration of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 adopted at their seventeenth annual meeting (A/48/485);

(l) Letter dated 21 October 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the final document of the meeting on locust control, held at Algiers on 27 September 1993 (A/48/552);

(m) Letter dated 15 October 1993 from the Acting Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the declaration of the Ministerial Meeting of the Least Developed Countries, held in New York on 30 September 1993 (A/C.2/48/4);

(n) Letter dated 4 November 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Emergency Locust Control Plan drawn up at the ad hoc Sahel/Maghreb meeting on locust control held at Tunis on 1 and 2 September 1993 (A/C.2/48/6);

(o) Letter dated 16 November 1993 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.2/48/10);

(p) Letter dated 22 November 1993 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.2/48/11).

Item 99 (a) Elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa

(a) Note by the Secretary-General on the implementation of decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development: elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa (A/48/226 and Add.1);

(b) Letter dated 28 October 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Limassol Commonwealth Communiqué adopted at the Meeting of the Heads of Government of the Countries of the Commonwealth, held at Limassol, Cyprus, from 21 to 25 October 1993 (A/48/564).

Item 99 (b) Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

(a) Report of the Preparatory Committee for the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (A/48/36); 1/

(b) Letter dated 28 October 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Limassol Commonwealth Communiqué adopted at the Meeting of the Heads of Government of the Countries of the Commonwealth, held at Limassol, Cyprus, from 21 to 25 October 1993 (A/48/564).

Item 99 (c) Sustainable use and conservation of the marine living resources of the high seas: United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks

Report of the Secretary-General (A/48/479).

4. At the 36th meeting, on 19 November, introductory statements were made by the Under-Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development and by the Director of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs (see A/C.2/48/SR.36).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.38

5. At the 41st meeting, on 26 November, the representative of Colombia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change" (A/C.2/48/L.38).

6. At the 47th meeting, on 10 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Leandro Arellano Resendiz (Mexico), informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on the draft resolution and orally revised its operative paragraph 1 by deleting, in the first line, the words "in accordance with the provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change", and, at the end of the paragraph, inserting the words "subject to the applicable provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change".

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.38, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 29, draft resolution I).

1/ To be issued in final form as Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 36 (A/48/36).

B. Draft decision A/C.2/48/L.41

8. At the 46th meeting, on 9 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Leandro Arellano Resendiz (Mexico), introduced a draft decision entitled "Reports requested in General Assembly resolutions 42/186 and 42/187" (A/C.2/48/L.41).

9. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft decision A/C.2/48/L.41 without a vote (see para. 30).

C. Draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.46

10. At the 42nd meeting, on 29 November, the representative of Colombia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Dissemination of the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development" (A/C.2/48/L.46).

11. At the 46th meeting, on 9 December, the Vice-Chairman, Mr. Leandro Arellano Resendiz (Mexico), informed the Committee of the results of informal consultations held on the draft resolution.

12. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.46 without a vote (see para. 29, draft resolution II).

Item 99 (a) Elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa

A. Draft resolution contained in the annex to decision 2/4 of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the Elaboration of an International Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa (A/48/226/Add.1, appendix II)

13. At the 46th meeting, on 9 December, the Committee recommended for adoption by the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session the draft resolution contained in the annex to decision 2/4 of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, contained in document A/48/226/Add.1, appendix II (see para. 29, draft resolution III).

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/48/L.47 and L.80

14. At the 43rd meeting, on 3 December, the representative of the Russian Federation, on behalf of Armenia, Belarus, Canada, the Czech Republic, Georgia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Ukraine, introduced a draft resolution

entitled "Strengthening international cooperation in the monitoring of global environment problems" (A/C.2/48/L.47), which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming its resolutions 44/244 of 22 December 1989 and 46/217 of 20 December 1991 on international cooperation in the monitoring, assessment and anticipation of environmental threats and in assistance in cases of environmental emergency,

"Recalling the relevant provisions of Agenda 21 2/ and the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, 3/ adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

"Taking note of decision 16/37 of 31 May 1991 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on early warning and forecasting of environmental emergencies, 4/ and decision 17/26 of 21 May 1993 on the United Nations Centre for Urgent Environmental Assistance, 5/

"Also taking note of the relevant parts of the reports of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on its thirty-fifth 6/ and thirty-sixth sessions 7/ in particular, in which the Committee noted the importance of remote sensing by satellites for monitoring the Earth's environment and, in particular, for studying and monitoring global change,

"Taking into account the ongoing activities of the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites in support of global environment monitoring and related applications,

"Bearing in mind the importance of the participation of relevant organs, specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, in Earthwatch, in particular in its environmental monitoring programmes, and the need for early warning capabilities in those programmes,

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2/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution I, annex II.

3/ Ibid., resolution 1, annex I.

4/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/46/25), annex.

5/ Ibid., Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/48/25), annex.

6/ Ibid., Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/47/20).

7/ Ibid., Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/48/20).

"Recognizing the need to make Earthwatch a more efficient instrument for environmental sensing and assessment of all elements influencing the global environment in order to ensure a balanced approach in serving, in particular, the needs of developing countries,

"Recognizing also the potential and importance of current available methods, technologies and techniques of monitoring, assessment and anticipation of global environmental problems, including remote sensing and monitoring from outer space,

"1. Invites Governments, and relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, and other relevant entities to review, as appropriate, their contribution to international cooperation in environmental monitoring, including remote sensing and evaluation from outer space, and provide appropriate support for such activities within existing resources;

"2. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to prepare in collaboration with all relevant entities within and outside the United Nations system for submission to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its eighteenth session, a report on the Programme's activities in environmental monitoring, containing proposals and recommendations within the context of Agenda 21 and a review of Earthwatch, taking into account the decisions adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its seventeenth session;

"3. Invites the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to consider the above-mentioned report at its eighteenth session and submit its conclusions and recommendations to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session, through the Economic and Social Council."

15. At its 47th meeting, on 10 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Leandro Arellano Resendiz (Mexico), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.47 (A/C.2/48/L.80).

16. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.80 without a vote (see para. 29, draft resolution IV).

17. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.80, draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.47 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

Item 99 (b) Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Draft resolutions A/C.2/48/L.12 and L.78

18. At the 39th meeting, on 23 November, the representative of Colombia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Global Conference on

the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States" (A/C.2/48/L.12), and orally revised it by deleting the words "Report of the" in the second line of operative paragraph 11. The draft resolution, as orally revised, read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling the report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, 8/ and in particular Agenda 21, 9/ chapter 17, section G, relating to the sustainable development of small island developing States,

"Recalling also its resolution 47/186 of 22 December 1992 on specific measures in favour of small island developing countries,

"Reaffirming its resolution 47/189 of 22 December 1992, in which it decided to convene the first Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,

"Reaffirming, in particular, the goals and objectives of the Conference identified in paragraphs 4 and 5 of its resolution 47/189, and mindful of the important contribution that their successful accomplishment could make to the promotion of sustainable and environmentally sound development with respect to small island developing States,

"Stressing that, because the development options of small island developing States are limited, there are special challenges to planning for and implementing sustainable development, and that small island developing States will be constrained in meeting those challenges without the cooperation and assistance of the international community,

"Also stressing the need for the intergovernmental preparatory process for the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States to be able to accomplish its work before the Conference itself,

"1. Takes note of the report of the Preparatory Committee for the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States on its organizational and first sessions; 10/

8/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda).

9/ Ibid., vol. I: Resolutions adopted by the Conference, resolution I, annex II.

10/ A/48/36.

"2. Decides to convene the first Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States in Barbados from 25 April to 6 May 1994;

"3. Urges once again that representation at the Conference be at the highest possible level;

"4. Decides to convene one day of pre-Conference consultations at the venue of the Conference on 24 April 1994;

"5. Decides also that the first session of the Preparatory Committee should be resumed for a period of five working days, from 7 to 11 March 1994, to complete the preparatory work assigned to it in paragraph 11 of resolution 47/189, including the draft programme of action for the sustainable development of small island developing States contained in annex III of the report of the Preparatory Committee and that adequate facilities should be made available for this purpose within the approved budget limit set for the biennium 1994-1995;

"6. Endorses decisions 1 and 4 of the Preparatory Committee concerning the participation of associate members of regional commissions and of non-governmental organizations, including major groups, in the Conference and its preparatory process; 11/

"7. Also endorses decisions 3 and 13 of the Preparatory Committee, 12/ and decides to transmit the provisional rules of procedure and the provisional agenda to the Conference for adoption;

"8. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the relevant United Nations agencies and organizations, and taking into account the submissions he may receive from bilateral, regional and multilateral donor agencies as well as from non-governmental organizations, to ensure the timely submission to the Preparatory Committee, at its resumed session, of the report requested in decision 11 of the Preparatory Committee; 13/

"9. Also requests the Secretary-General, through the Department of Public Information, to ensure that the goals and purposes of the Conference receive the widest possible dissemination within Member States, non-governmental organizations, and national, regional and international media, with a view to encouraging their active contribution to and support of the Conference and its preparatory process;

"10. Expresses its appreciation for the contributions made to the voluntary fund established for the purpose of assisting small island developing States and the least developed countries to participate fully

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11/ Ibid., part one, chap. V.

12/ Ibid., part two, chap. VII.

13/ Ibid.

and effectively in the Conference and its preparatory process, and invites all Member States and organizations in a position to do so to contribute generously to the fund;

"11. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session an item entitled 'Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States', and requests the Secretary-General to submit the report of the Conference to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session."

19. At the 47th meeting, on 10 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Leandro Arellano Resendiz (Mexico), introduced a draft resolution submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.12 (A/C.2/48/L.78).

20. The Secretary of the Committee made a statement on the programme budget implications of the draft resolution (see A/C.2/48/SR.47).

21. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.78 without a vote (see para. 27, draft resolution V).

Item 99 (c) Sustainable use and conservation of the marine living resources of the high-seas; United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks

Draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.44

22. At the 42nd meeting, on 29 November, the representative of Fiji introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks" (A/C.2/48/L.44).

23. At the 47th meeting, on 10 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Leandro Arellano Resendiz (Mexico), informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on the draft resolution, and orally revised it as follows:

(a) In the first preambular paragraph, after the words "United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks", the words ("the Conference")" were added;

(b) In operative paragraph 7, second line, after the word "Conference", the rest of the paragraph was deleted;

(c) A new operative paragraph 8 was inserted to read:

"Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session the sub-item entitled 'Sustainable use and conservation of marine living resources of the high seas: United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks' under the agenda item entitled 'Implementation of decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development'."

24. The Secretary of the Committee made a statement on the programme budget implications of the draft resolution (A/C.2/48/SR.47).

25. The representative of Egypt, also on behalf of Benin, further revised the draft resolution by replacing the words "28 March to 15 April 1994" in operative paragraph 3 with the words "14 to 31 March 1994".

26. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, the Chairman made a statement (see A/C.2/48/SR.47)

27. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.44, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 29, draft resolution VI).

28. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of the Republic of Korea made a statement (see A/C.2/48/SR.47).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

29. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

The General Assembly,

Recalling the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, negotiated under its auspices and opened for signature at Rio de Janeiro on 4 June 1992, during the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

Noting with satisfaction the progress being made towards fulfilling the requirements for entry into force stipulated in article 23 of the Convention 14/ and the preparatory work undertaken by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 47/195 of 22 December 1992,

Noting further that, in accordance with article 7, paragraph 4, of the Convention, the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention shall be convened by the interim secretariat of the Convention and shall take place not later than one year after the date of entry into force of the Convention,

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14/ A/AC.237/18 (Part II)/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex I.

Having considered the recommendation made by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee at its eighth session regarding the Conference of the Parties 15/ and the related note by the Secretary-General, 16/

Taking into account the basic provisions of General Assembly resolution 40/243 of 18 December 1985,

1. Decides that the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate change shall be held from 28 March to 7 April 1995, subject to the applicable provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

2. Accepts with deep appreciation the generous offer of the Government of Germany to host at Berlin the first session of the Conference of the Parties;

3. Decides to include the first session of the Conference of the Parties in the calendar of conferences and meetings for 1994-1995.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Dissemination of the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development

The General Assembly,

Convinced that the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development 17/ contains fundamental principles for the achievement of sustainable development, based on a new and equitable global partnership,

Conscious of the fact that the dissemination of the principles of the Declaration will contribute to increasing public awareness of the need to take a balanced and integrated approach to development and environment questions,

Bearing in mind its resolution 47/191 of 22 December 1992, in particular paragraph 4 (a) thereof, in which it recommended that the Commission on Sustainable Development promote the incorporation of the principles of the Declaration in the implementation of Agenda 21, 18/ and recalling

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15/ A/AC.237/41.

16/ A/48/563.

17/ United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions adopted by the Conference, (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), resolution I, annex I.

18/ Ibid., annex II.

paragraphs 32 and 42 of the report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its first session, 19/

Recalling that the ministers and other participants at the high-level meeting of the first session of the Commission on Sustainable Development emphasized the need to promote broad dissemination of the principles of the Declaration at all levels with a view to promoting public awareness regarding sustainable development,

Recalling also chapter 36 of Agenda 21, entitled "Promoting education, public awareness and training",

1. Urges all Governments to promote widespread dissemination of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development 17/ at the public and private levels;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the Declaration is widely disseminated by the competent organs and bodies of the United Nations system, and that its principles are incorporated in their programmes and processes, in accordance with paragraphs 32 and 42 of the report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its first session. 19/

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

Elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/172 of 19 December 1989, 44/228 of 22 December 1989 and other relevant General Assembly resolutions, as well as decisions adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, in particular the recommendation by which the Conference invited the General Assembly to establish, under its auspices, an intergovernmental negotiating committee for the elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa,

Recalling also its resolution 47/188 of 22 December 1992, by which it established the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the Elaboration of an International Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, with a view to finalizing such a convention by June 1994,

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19/ E/1993/25/Add.1.

Recalling further that Agenda 21, 20/ chapter 12, in particular paragraphs 12.1-4, recognizes desertification and/or drought as a problem of global dimension, in that it affects one sixth of the world population and one quarter of the total land area of the world and requires a broad response, as set out in paragraph 12.4 of Agenda 21, and that concrete measures have to be taken in all regions, particularly in Africa, within the framework of the convention,

Reiterating the objective that the convention be finalized by June 1994, and that it shall be implemented as soon as possible,

Noting with appreciation the work of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee at its first and second substantive sessions,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General concerning the progress of the negotiations on the convention, 21/

1. Urges the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the Elaboration of an International Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, successfully to complete the negotiations by June 1994, in accordance with resolution 47/188;

2. Decides that the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee shall hold one session after the adoption of the convention in order to review the situation in the interim period pending its entry into force, in particular with regard to the implementation of provisions adapted to the specific needs of each region;

3. Also decides that the session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee after the adoption of the convention should be held not later than 31 January 1995, and requests the Secretary-General to make appropriate arrangements for the functioning of the ad hoc secretariat and the multidisciplinary panel of experts to service that session;

4. Further decides that the negotiating process shall continue to be funded through existing United Nations budgetary resources, without negatively affecting its programmed activities, and through voluntary contributions to the trust fund established pursuant to its resolution 47/188 specifically for that purpose for the duration of the negotiations and administered by the head of the ad hoc secretariat under the authority of the Secretary-General, with the possibility of carrying over resources contributed from one fiscal year to the other;

20/ United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions adopted by the Conference, (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), resolution I, annex II.

21/ A/48/226 and Add.1.

5. Notes the contributions of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Meteorological Organization, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and other relevant international organizations dealing with desertification, drought and development to the work of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee in the conduct of its mandate, and invites them to continue to provide such support;

6. Notes with appreciation the initial contributions made to the trust fund and invites Governments, regional economic integration organizations and other interested organizations, including non-governmental organizations, to continue their support for the fund;

7. Invites the international community, in particular the developed countries and other countries in a position to do so, to make voluntary contributions to the secretariat of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee and/or the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office of the United Nations Development Programme and any other relevant international and regional organizations to allow them to assist countries affected by drought and/or desertification in all regions, particularly in Africa, in their preparation for the negotiating process;

8. Notes with appreciation the contributions made to the special voluntary fund established pursuant to its resolution 47/188 to assist developing countries affected by desertification and drought, in particular the least developed countries, to participate fully and effectively in the negotiating process, and invites Governments, regional economic integration organizations and other interested organizations, including non-governmental organizations, to continue to contribute generously to the fund;

9. Notes the arrangements made by the Secretary-General and the welcome support of relevant or interested organizations, organs, programmes and concerned agencies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental, subregional and regional organizations in the work of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, and invites them to continue to participate actively in the work of the Committee in the future;

10. Urges Governments to continue to organize, in close collaboration with the regional commissions and national, subregional and regional organizations, activities to support the process of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, involving, as appropriate, the scientific and industrial communities, trade unions, the relevant non-governmental organizations and other interested groups;

11. Notes the assistance provided by the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office to the countries covered under its mandate in their preparations for and participation in the negotiating process and invites the Office to continue to support the Governments concerned and to continue to mobilize resources for this purpose;

12. Also notes the constructive contribution of relevant non-governmental organizations to the success of the negotiating process, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee and taking into account procedures used in the process of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and encourages them, and particularly non-governmental organizations from developing countries, to continue to contribute to the success of the negotiating process;

13. Reiterates its request to the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to continue to submit progress reports on the negotiations to the Commission on Sustainable Development and other appropriate bodies;

14. Requests the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Governments, relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and scientific and other institutions concerned;

15. Also requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

16. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session the sub-item entitled "Elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa" under the agenda item entitled "Implementation of decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development".

DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

Strengthening international cooperation in the monitoring of global environmental problems

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 44/224 of 22 December 1989 and 46/217 of 20 December 1991 on international cooperation in the monitoring, assessment and anticipation of environmental threats and in assistance in cases of environmental emergency,

Reaffirming also the relevant provisions of Agenda 21 22/ and the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, 23/ adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, including principle 2 of the Declaration, which states that States have, in accordance with the Charter of

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22/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), resolution I, annex II.

23/ Ibid., annex I.

the United Nations and the principles of international law, the sovereign right to exploit their own resources pursuant to their own environmental and developmental policies, and the responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of other States or of areas beyond their national jurisdiction,

Taking note of decision 16/37 of 31 May 1991 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on early warning and forecasting of environmental emergencies, 24/ and decision 17/26 of 21 May 1993 on the United Nations Centre for Urgent Environmental Assistance, 25/

Also taking note of the relevant parts of the reports of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on its thirty-fifth 26/ and thirty-sixth sessions 27/ in particular, in which the Committee noted the importance of remote sensing by satellites for monitoring the Earth's environment and, in particular, for studying and monitoring global change,

Taking into account the ongoing activities of the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites in support of global environment monitoring and related applications,

Bearing in mind the importance of the participation of relevant organs, specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, in Earthwatch, in particular in its environmental monitoring programmes, and the need for early warning capabilities in those programmes,

Recognizing the need to make Earthwatch a more efficient instrument for environmental sensing and assessment of all elements influencing the global environment in order to ensure a balanced approach in serving, in particular, the needs of developing countries,

Recognizing also the potential and importance of current available methods, technologies and techniques of monitoring, assessment and anticipation of global environmental problems, including remote sensing and monitoring from outer space,

1. Invites Governments, relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, and other relevant entities to review, as appropriate, their contribution to international cooperation in environmental monitoring, including environmentally related remote sensing and data

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24/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/46/25), annex.

25/ Ibid., Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/48/25), annex.

26/ Ibid., Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/47/20).

27/ Ibid., Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/48/20).

assessment, and to provide appropriate support for such activities within existing resources;

2. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to prepare and to submit to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its eighteenth session a report on the Programme's activities in environmental monitoring, containing proposals and recommendations within the context of Agenda 21 and a review of Earthwatch, taking into account the decisions adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its seventeenth session, in cooperation with relevant entities within the United Nations system and, where appropriate, outside the United Nations system;

3. Invites the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to consider the above-mentioned report at its eighteenth session and to submit its conclusions and recommendations to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session, through the Economic and Social Council.

DRAFT RESOLUTION V

Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

The General Assembly,

Recalling the report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, 28/ and in particular Agenda 21, 29/ chapter 17, section G, relating to the sustainable development of small island developing States,

Recalling also its resolution 47/186 of 22 December 1992 on specific measures in favour of island developing countries,

Reaffirming its resolution 47/189 of 22 December 1992, in which it decided to convene the first Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,

Reaffirming, in particular, the goals and objectives of the Conference identified in paragraphs 4 and 5 of its resolution 47/189, and mindful of the important contribution that their successful accomplishment could make to the promotion of sustainable and environmentally sound development with respect to small island developing States,

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28/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda).

29/ Ibid., vol. I, Resolutions adopted by the Conference, resolution I, annex II.

Stressing that, because the development options of small island developing States are limited, there are special challenges to planning for and implementing sustainable development, and that small island developing States will be constrained in meeting those challenges without the cooperation and assistance of the international community,

Also stressing the need for the intergovernmental preparatory process for the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States to be able to accomplish its work before the Conference itself,

1. Takes note of the report of the Preparatory Committee for the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States on its organizational and first sessions; 30/

2. Decides to convene the first Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States in Barbados from 25 April to 6 May 1994, including a high-level segment on 5 and 6 May;

3. Urges once again that representation at the Conference be at the highest possible level;

4. Decides to convene one day of pre-Conference consultations at the venue of the Conference on 24 April 1994;

5. Also decides that the first session of the Preparatory Committee should be resumed in New York for a period of five working days, from 7 to 11 March 1994, to complete the preparatory work assigned to it in paragraph 11 of resolution 47/189, including the draft programme of action for the sustainable development of small island developing States contained in annex III to the report of the Preparatory Committee, and that adequate facilities should be made available for this purpose within the approved budget limit set for the biennium 1994-1995;

6. Endorses decisions 1 and 4 of the Preparatory Committee concerning the participation of associate members of regional commissions and of non-governmental organizations, including major groups, in the Conference and its preparatory process; 31/

7. Also endorses decisions 3 and 13 of the Preparatory Committee, 32/ and decides to transmit the provisional rules of procedure and the provisional agenda to the Conference for adoption;

8. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the relevant United Nations agencies and organizations, and taking into account the submissions he may receive from bilateral, regional and multilateral donor

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30/ A/48/36.

31/ Ibid., part one, chap. V.

32/ Ibid., part two, chap. VII.

submission to the Preparatory Committee, at its resumed session, of the report requested in decision 11 of the Preparatory Committee; 33/

9. Also requests the Secretary-General, through the Department of Public Information, to ensure that the goals and purposes of the Conference receive the widest possible dissemination within Member States, non-governmental organizations and national, regional and international media, with a view to encouraging their active contribution to and support for the Conference and its preparatory process;

10. Expresses its appreciation for the contributions made to the voluntary fund established for the purpose of assisting small island developing States and the least developed countries to participate fully and effectively in the Conference and its preparatory process, and invites all Member States and organizations in a position to do so to contribute generously to the fund;

11. Decides to include in the agenda of its forty-ninth session the sub-item entitled "Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States" under the item entitled "Implementation of decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session the report of the Global Conference.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VI

United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 47/192 of 22 December 1992, concerning the United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks ("the Conference"),

Noting that the Conference held its organizational session in New York from 19 to 23 April 1993, and its second session, also in New York, from 12 to 30 July 1993,

Noting with appreciation that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations has agreed to prepare two information papers, one on the precautionary approach and the other on the concept of maximum sustainable yield,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made by the Conference during 1993, 34/

33/ Ibid.

34/ A/48/479.

Taking note of the recommendations of the Conference to the General Assembly, as set forth in the report of the Conference on its second session, 35/ regarding the convening of two further sessions in 1994, required by the Conference in order to complete its work,

Convinced that the widest possible participation in the Conference is important to ensure its success,

1. Notes the progress made by the United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks;

2. Reaffirms that the Conference should complete its work before the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly;

3. Approves the convening in New York of two further sessions of the Conference, to be held from 14 to 31 March 1994 and from 15 to 26 August 1994, in accordance with the recommendation of the Conference;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to provide services for these two sessions of the Conference, with facilities enabling the Conference to hold two simultaneous meetings during the sessions;

5. Renews its request to Governments and regional economic integration organizations to contribute to the voluntary fund established in accordance with paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 47/192 for the purpose of assisting developing countries, especially those most concerned by the subject-matter of the Conference, in particular the least developed among them, to participate fully and effectively in the Conference, and expresses its appreciation for the contributions made to the fund so far;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to circulate to delegations as early as possible the information papers being prepared by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

7. Also requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session the final report on the work of the Conference;

8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session the sub-item entitled "Sustainable use and conservation of marine living resources of the high seas: United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks" under the agenda item entitled "Implementation of decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development".

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35/ A/CONF.164/16, para. 25 (a).

30. The Second Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Reports requested in General Assembly resolutions 42/186 and 42/187

The General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Economic and Social Council in its decision 1993/314 of 29 July 1993, decides to discontinue the reporting requested in Assembly resolutions 42/186 and 42/187 of 11 December 1987 on the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond, and on the World Commission on Environment and Development, respectively.